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## Eggs in Incubators on December 1 Up 6 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on December 1, 2011, in the United States totaled 28.9 million, up 6 percent from December 1, 2010. Eggs in incubators were up 5 percent from the November 1, 2011 total of 27.5 million eggs.

## Poults Hatched During November Down 4 Percent from Last Year

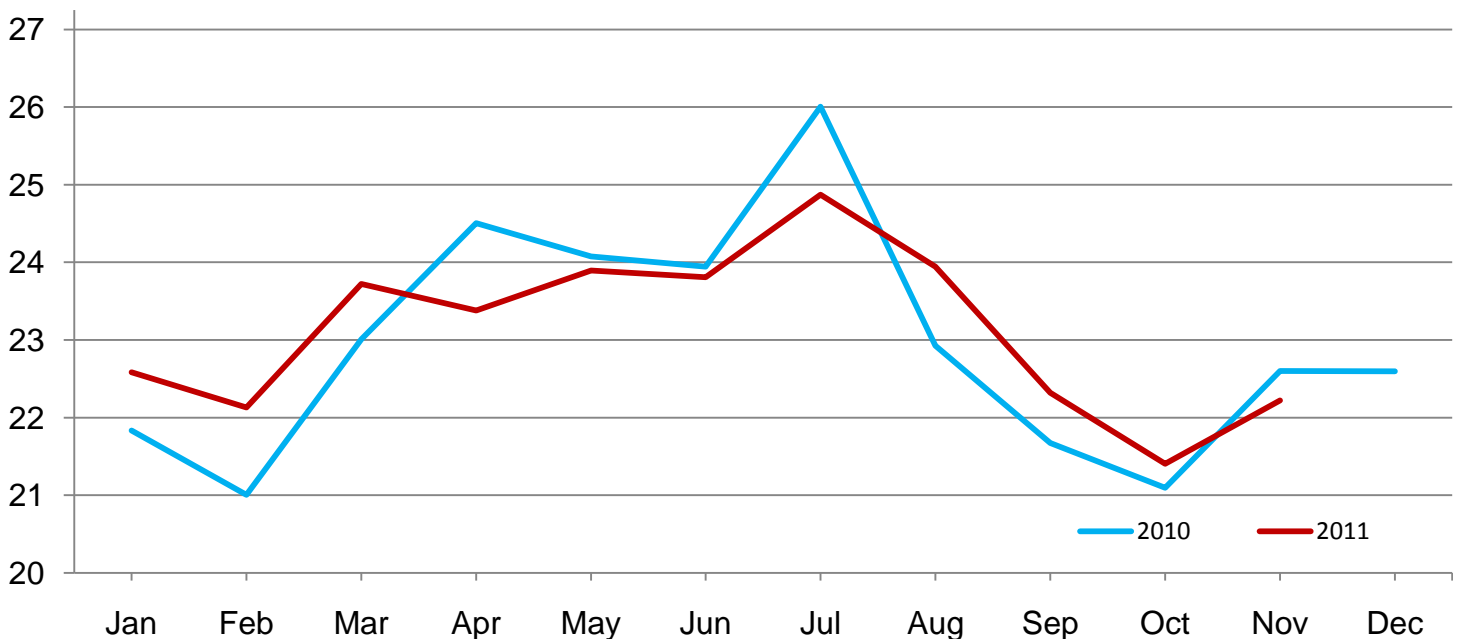
Turkey poults hatched during November 2011, in the United States totaled 22.7 million, down 4 percent from November 2010. Poults hatched were up 1 percent from the October 2011 total of 22.4 million poults.

## Net Poults Placed During November Down 2 Percent from Last Year

The 22.2 million net poults placed during November 2011 in the United States were down 2 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were up 4 percent from the October 2011 total of 21.4 million.

## Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



## Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2010-2012

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2010-2011	2011-2012		2010-2011	2011-2012	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September .....	26,353	28,072	107	22,065	23,157	105
October .....	26,223	27,170	104	22,085	22,423	102
November .....	28,415	27,502	97	23,783	22,726	96
December .....	27,327	28,922	106	23,519		
January .....	27,764			23,973		
February .....	28,431			23,079		
March .....	28,359			24,340		
April .....	27,720			23,735		
May .....	27,754			24,082		
June .....	28,215			23,812		
July .....	29,178			24,766		
August .....	28,427			23,887		

## Net Poulst Placements by Month – United States: 2010-2012

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2010-2011	2011-2012		2010-2011	2011-2012	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September .....	21,672	22,320	103	21,672	22,320	103
October .....	21,094	21,407	101	42,766	43,727	102
November .....	22,599	22,220	98	65,365	65,947	101
December .....	22,596			87,961		
January .....	22,585			110,546		
February .....	22,130			132,676		
March .....	23,720			156,396		
April .....	23,378			179,774		
May .....	23,893			203,667		
June .....	23,810			227,477		
July .....	24,872			252,349		
August .....	23,946			276,295		

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries hatching 15,000 or more poult annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

**Estimating Procedures:** Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State, regional, and United States totals. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poult Placement data include imported poult and exclude exported poult.

Cumulative net poult placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poult which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report, while annual revisions are published in the *Hatchery Production - Annual Summary* report in April.

**Reliability:** Turkey hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the “Root Mean Square Error” is shown for selected items in the following table. The “Root Mean Square Error” is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The “Root Mean Square Error” for turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.9 million eggs by more than 1.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.8 percent.

### Reliability of December Turkey Hatchery Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators .....	1.6	2.8	320	2	963	17	7
Poult hatched .....	0.7	1.3	94	0	672	14	8
Net poult placements .....	1.6	2.7	256	34	1,165	14	10

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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